

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Previously Presented) A method for preparing an amorphous metal fluoride of the formula $M^{x+}F_{x-d}$ comprising the steps of

- a) providing a precursor, whereby the precursor comprises a structure having a formula of $M^{x+}F_{(x-d)-y}B_y$; and
- b) reacting the precursor with a fluorinating agent generating the amorphous metal fluoride having a formula of $M^{x+}F_{x-d}$, wherein

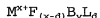
M is selected from the group comprising metals of the second, third and fourth main group and any subgroup of the periodic table,

- B is a coordinately bound group;
- x is any integer of 2 or 3;
- y is any integer between 1 and 3;
- d is 0 to 0.1; and
- $x-d > y$.

2. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein B is selected from the group comprising alkoxides, enolates and salts of carboxylic acid having preferably a length of 1 to 5 C atoms.

3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the precursor, the starting material for the precursor or the fluorinating agent is present in or introduced into an anhydrous organic solvent, whereby the anhydrous organic solvent is preferably selected from the group comprising alcohols, ethers, ketones, alkanes, formic acid, acetic acid and propionic acid.

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the precursor contains or is made from a compound of the formula



wherein M, F, x, y, d and B are defined as in claim 1;

L is a solvent, and

d is ≤ 1 .

5. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein step b is carried out at a temperature below the crystallisation point of the amorphous metal fluoride.

6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the precursor is prepared by

- providing the metal component of the precursor as an anhydrous metal compound, preferably as $M^x B_x$,

with M, B and x being defined as in claim 1, and

- reacting said metal component with anhydrous hydrogen fluoride.

7. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the fluorinating agent is $CH_3Cl_hF_{4-g-h}$ with the sum of g+h being equivalent to 1 to 3.

8. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the fluorinating agent is HF.

9. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the amorphous metal fluoride is a catalyst, preferably a

heterogenous catalyst.

10. (Previously Presented) A method for the manufacture of a catalyst, preferably a catalyst comprising amorphous metal fluoride of the formula $M^x F_{x-d}$,

wherein M is selected from the group comprising metals of the second, third and fourth main group and any subgroup of the periodic table,

x is any integer of 2 or 3; and

d is 0 to 0.1,

comprising the steps of the method according to claim 1, wherein the amorphous metal fluoride is the catalyst.

11. (Currently Amended) An amorphous metal fluoride ~~obtainable~~ produced by a method according to claim 1.

12. (Currently Amended) A catalyst ~~obtainable~~ produced by a method according to claim 9.

13. (Previously Presented) A catalyst comprising amorphous metal fluoride of the formula $M^x F_{x-d}$,

wherein M is selected from the group comprising metals of the second, third and fourth main group and any subgroup of the periodic table,

x is any integer of 2 or 3; and

d is 0 to 0.1,

which is catalytically active and preferably having an active surface of about 100-300 m²/g, preferably 180-280 m²/g.

14. (Currently Amended) An industrially producible catalyst, preferably a catalyst according to claim 12, containing amorphous metal fluoride of the formula $M^x F_{x-d} [[.]]_L$ wherein M is selected from the group comprising metals of the second, third and fourth main group and any subgroup of the periodic table,

x is any integer of 2 or 3, and

d is 0 to 0.1,

being catalytically active and preferably having an active surface of about 100-300 m²/g, preferably 180-280 m²/g.

15. (Currently Amended) A moisture resistant catalyst, preferably a catalyst according to claim 12, containing amorphous metal fluoride of the formula $M^x F_{x-d} [[.]]_L$ wherein

M is selected from the group comprising metals of the second, third and fourth main group and any subgroup of the periodic table,

x is any integer of 2 or 3, and

d is 0 to 0.1.

16. (Previously Presented) The catalyst according to claim 12, wherein M is selected from the group comprising Zn, Sn, Cu, Fe, Cr, V, Mg and Al, whereby preferably M has a charge of +2 or +3.

17. (Previously Presented) The catalyst according to claim 1, wherein any of M is used as $M^x F_{x-d}$, as guest component or as host component.

18. (Currently Amended) A catalyst containing a metal fluoride of the formula $M^x F_{x-d} []_d$ wherein

M is selected from the group comprising metals of the second, third and fourth main group and any subgroup of the periodic table,

x is any integer of 2 or 3; and

d is 0 to 0.1,

which catalyst is essentially free of Cl, whereby preferably the catalyst is a catalyst according to claim 13.